



CANNON BUILDING
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STATE OF DELAWARE
BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS

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MEETING MINUTES:	BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL LAND SURVEYORS
DATE AND TIME:	November 17, 2016 at 8:30 a.m.
PLACE:	861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, Delaware Conference Room A, first floor of the Cannon Building
APPROVED:	February 16, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Franco R. Bellafante, Professional Member, Chair, Presiding
Charles Adams, Jr., Professional Member, Vice-Chair
Rhonda West, Public Member, Secretary
James Bielicki, Jr., Professional Member
Carla Cassell-Carter, Public Member
Lakiyah Chambers, Public Member (8:41 a.m. – 9:07 a.m.)
Kelly Katz, Professional Member

DIVISION STAFF

Meredith Hurley, Administrative Specialist II
Kevin Maloney, Deputy Attorney General
Jennifer Witte, Administrative Specialist II

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Bellafante called the meeting to order at 8:41 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Adams moved, seconded by Mr. Katz, to approve the October 20, 2016, meeting minutes as written. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Continued Discussion of Plan Certification Notes

Mr. Bellafante passed out a copy of the certification note that he had come up with to coincide with the sample Mr. Adams presented at the last meeting. The Board agreed that this was a great start and will be reviewing the way land surveyors in other states layout their notes.

Review of Substantially Related Crimes List

Mr. Bielicki moved, seconded by Ms. Cassell-Carter, to modify the list of proposed changes to the regulations that would clarify items in the continuing education requirements and authorize Mr. Maloney to send the changes to the Register of Regulations. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Review and Consider Final Order on Hearing Officer Recommendations

The Board Order for Robert Hughes was introduced and passed around for Board member signatures.

NEW BUSINESS

Review of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity

Mr. Bellafante moved, seconded by Mr. Katz, to approve Christopher Jackson for licensure as a professional land surveyor contingent on a passing score of the Delaware Drainage and Jurisprudence Exam. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Wall Certificate

The wall certificate for Matthew Drumheller was signed by Mr. Bellafante and Ms. West.

Courses for Professional Development Hours Approval

Mr. Katz moved, seconded by Mr. Bielicki, to approve the 1 hour online course requested by James Conlow for "RTN Best Practices". By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Mr. Katz moved, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the 2 hour live course requested by James Conlow for "Geodetic Vertical Control Across the State & What Resources are Available to the Surveyor". By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Legislative Updates

Mr. Maloney stated this subject is on the agenda due to a new legislative session coming and for the Board to think about any changes they would like to see in the statutes. At this time he didn't see any concerns that needed to be addressed.

Mr. Adams asked if the certification notes would fall under the statutes. Mr. Maloney responded that he thought this could fall under a regulation change.

CORRESPONDENCE

James Purcell

Mr. Purcell is running for a position with NCEES and is looking for support and endorsement. The Board cannot legally endorse any one candidate.

Jerry Carter

Mr. Carter sent correspondence letting the Board know that a representative from NCEES will be visiting the Board meeting in March, 2017. His letter suggested the Board compile questions or issues to bring to their attention during the visit.

Mark Benzin

Mr. Benzin was requesting an exam review to see where he would need to focus his efforts for the next time he tests. The Board discussed this and agreed that the Division would need to come up with the correct correspondence to send him.

Kenny Cronic

Mr. Cronic was hoping to become a surveyor intern but his supervisor has recently passed away. He was asking how his experience can be validated without his supervisor. Mr. Maloney considered this an advisory question and didn't think the Board should recommend anything other than to seek legal advice from a Delaware attorney.

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (FOR DISCUSSION ONLY)

Ms. Hurley updated the Board on the bridge article that had been previously discussed. Mr. Mangler spoke to human resources about their concerns but as stated in the last meeting, these requests do not end favorably.

Mr. Bielicki brought up the business practices of land surveyors that do work for real estate settlements and how the land surveyor basically does not get paid if the real estate deal falls through. He stated this is considered a kick-back to surveyors if they forego payment in exchange for future business with the settlement agents. If the land surveyor requests their fee after the deal falls through, they stand the chance of losing future business. Mr. Maloney suggested attending the Real Estate Commission to ask them about the lack of payment under RESPA (Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act).

Ms. Cassell-Carter asked if other professions involved in the sale of a home lose their fees as well if the deal is flawed and never goes to settlement. It appears that surveyors may not be the only ones losing fees.

Mr. Bellafante mentioned there has been some talk from engineers and surveyors about the Board merging with DAPE (Delaware Association of Professional Engineers). The Board is State regulated whereas DAPE is their own governing board. Mr. Bielicki asked if the merge may actually be with DAPE and DAS (Delaware Association of Surveyors).

Mr. Bellafante acknowledged that this will be Ms. West's last meeting as her term is up. Ms. West stated that it has been a pleasure and she has learned a lot from being a member of the Board.

Mr. Bellafante also acknowledged that the Board will have a new liaison and introduced Ms. Witte.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held Thursday, January 19, 2017 at 8:30 a.m., Conference Room A, second floor of the Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Blvd., Dover, DE 19904.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Board, Ms. West moved, seconded by Mr. Bielicki, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. By unanimous vote, the motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Meredith Hurley". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Meredith Hurley
Administrative Specialist II